



PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:)
Fischer, et al.) Docket No.: D078 1090
Serial No: 09/700,099) Examiner: Not Assigned Yet
Filed: December 11, 2000) Art Unit: 1773
For: Low-emission Floor Covering)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box IDS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Applicants hereby voluntarily disclose the items listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents. Copies of six (6) documents are enclosed herewith.

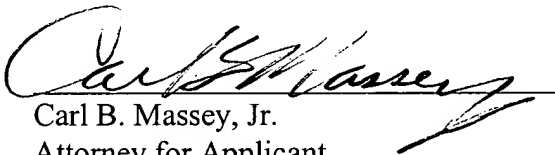
Applicants further reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the listed information should they be applied as references, and/or to prove that any of the cited information is not prior art, and/or to prove that any of the cited information is not enabling for the teachings they purport to offer. Further, this statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made, or that the information cited herewith is material, or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present Application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the information submitted herein. On the contrary, the Examiner is requested to conduct an independent and thorough review of the information, and to form independent opinions as to its significance.

Documents F2 and F3 are published in the German language. Document F2 is published with an English language abstract and appears to discuss a flooring which allegedly causes substantially no emissions producing unpleasant smells or unhealthy emissions, which does not change color due to age, and which is produced by a process using an elastomer based on a polyolefine with a density of 0.918 g/cm³ acting as the polymer binding agent.

Document F3 appears to relate to process for producing a web-like covering material from a concentrated mixture of rubber components using an endless traveling conveyor belt. An English language abstract from the related international application for Document F3 is provided as Document D2 (English Abstract for published German language PCT application WO9514564A1, which claims priority to document F3).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 and to indicate in the official file wrapper of the above-identified patent application that each item of the cited information has been considered.

Date: March 20, 2001


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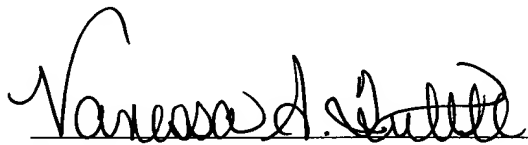
Date of Deposit : March 20, 2001

Type of Documents : Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
Form PTO-1449 (1 page)
Six documents (Totaling 39 pages)
Return Post Card

Serial No. : 09/700,099

Filing Date : December 11, 2000

I hereby certify that the documents identified above are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Vanessa A. Tuttle (signature)

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